

Department of Energy
Pacific Area Support Office
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Harry Brown
H32 C

TO; JOE DRYDEN, DIRECTOR, PASO

TRIP REPORT OF VISIT TO FIELD STATION ENEWETAK-JULY, 1986

I. BACKGROUND

Because of the uncertainty engendered by the impending termination of the TTPI government on 9/30/86, and its effect on program operations and funding at Enewetak, a field visit to FSE was necessary in order to review operations, initiate roll-up activities, and to discuss matters and plans with the Enewetak Council.

The DOE field party consisted of Kent Hiner and Jack Matthewman of H&N/PO, Reynold de Brum, DOE Representative in Majuro, and myself. We were accompanied by Charles Jordan, TTPI Project Manager for Enewetak Programs. Also accompanying us to Enewetak were David Anderson, Counsel for the Enewetak Council, and Senator Ismael John of Enewetak. (Dr. Graham Conway, Director of the Four Atoll Health Care Program also was on Enewetak at the same time and attended most of our meetings).

The visit to Enewetak took place between July 9-13, 1986.

II ACTIVITIES AND OBSERVATIONS

A. En Route

While on the aircraft en route to Majuro, I sat and conversed for several hours with Mr. David Anderson, Counsel to the dri-Enewetak. I found him to be a liberal, open-minded individual and rather reasonable in his approach to problems concerning his clients in the Marshall Islands. He readily understood our dilemma, agreed completely with our strategy to close-down operations at Enewetak if acceptable program directions and funding are not assured for this coming fiscal year, and seemed confident that a current "rescue action" by the US Congress to provide funding for FY 87 would succeed. While I agreed he might be right, the timing of such an action was just as critical to us as the action itself; hence, I suggested that we explore alternatives should the timing be delayed. (See below). Matthewman and I also described the Enewetak transition book and its contents. Mr. Anderson was extremely pleased by the depth and coverage of the proposed book, offering advice and constructive comments (which he gave us later in writing). He did feel, however, that it would be premature and unproductive for us to provide, as planned, property and inventory details to the people at this time. He felt it would arouse a venal preoccupation by the community with the "goodies" that they would

*Enewetak Council 87
HARRY BROWN'S Files, NV*

inherit at program close-down, and thus distract everyone from consideration of the main task: how to continue the rehabilitation and community support programs at Enewetak, and to secure the participation of the people themselves in any future "rescue action". We concurred with his thought and modified our plans accordingly.

B. KWAJALEIN

I was involved in several matters during our stay at Kwajalein. First I interviewed four candidates for the position of DOE Coordinator. I selected Alan Jonathan Brown who incidentally was the first choice of Global's management as well as Operations Coordination staff, including Lance Yamaguchi. I found John (as he prefers to be called) to be intelligent, ambitious, and capable. His experience and background are in the trades industry. With orientation and tutelage, I believe he will become an excellent coordinator. (I will circulate a copy of his resume for your information). Brown, who hails from Kailua, Hawaii, will start work on July 14th. Lance Yamaguchi will provide him day to day training and guidance; we will give him orientation in mid-September when he will be in Honolulu on personal matters.

We will have to watch closely the internal relationships of the Operations Coordination Office, especially over the next few months. With Tom Daly's departure, Darlene Koenigg has been promoted by Global into his slot as Operations Coordinator, Yamaguchi has been moved laterally into her Assistant Ops Coord. job, and John Brown will work alongside Lance under Darlene. While it is rumored that Darlene will serve only a few months and then be moved into a managerial level position as head of Special Services at KMR, and then Lance would be moved up to her (Daly's) job, that's speculation. The fact is that some seeds of dissension/resentment are germinating within that office and it would behoove us to pay close attention to ensure our work is accomplished during this very delicate period.

I presented our letter of appreciation and beautiful plaque to Tom Daly for his outstanding support to our Marshall Islands programs over the years. It left him flabbergasted and speechless. He was enormously pleased and delighted over this recognition of his performance. (He departed Kwajalein on July 9th, after eighteen years of service).

I visited Ebeye on July 9 to inspect the trailers and to determine storage space needs required by Helmer Emos since he had told me the previous day that the Four Atoll Health Care Program staff had been making presumptuous demands on the use of space in the examination trailer. We agreed that the large room should be used for BNL/DOE storage needs and that the OB/GYN examination table should be moved into one of the two, small exam rooms being left for the Four Atoll program's use. (Drs. Conway and Pallafax readily concurred with my position on our space needs when I discussed it with them).

C. ENEWETAK

Field Station Operations - While at Enewetak, I attempted to informally review station operations. However, it presently is difficult to gauge the efficiency of our station operations at Enewetak since our visit took place in the midst of uncertainty about the future.

What on the surface appears to be neglect and management softness may be a reflection of a climate we have helped to create because of these uncertainties. Clearly, impressive steps have been taken to implement the DOE clean-up at Enjebi Island, and preparations have been made to do likewise on Enewetak Island. Stan Miyasato has also done his political homework with the Enewetak community and laid the groundwork for the clean-up and close-out effort. All in all, the best time to review and evaluate FSE would be mid-way into the forthcoming program year if we continue there.

We visited Enjebi on July 11 to observe progress on the clean-up campaign. We were very pleased by the accomplishments to date. The trailer camp has been reactivated, burial sites have been selected and approved by the landowners, and actual work has begun by Roger Kanealii and his local crew of six. The work there will be completed by the end of August. The Enewetak island clean-up will then commence.

The maxi-garden portion of the agricultural program also was impressive. A good range and quantity of produce is being produced not only in our experimental area but in people's backyards as well. Even Senator Ismael John, a difficult man to please, expressed great satisfaction with the produce and poultry being raised within the community, a first in Enewetak history, he claimed.

We also looked at the Wetak II operation. We were satisfied to note that the crew has taken action on most of the marine surveyor's recommendations, awaiting only a fire control part to complete its on board requirements. Captain Danny Quinn plans to leave at the end of his current contract. John Enloe did indicate his interest in staying; the good news is that he has a Captain's "ticket".

Community Meetings - We conducted three meetings with the Enewetak community as follows: July 10, 11, & 13, 1986. These meetings were formally conducted by Mr. Charles Jordan of the TTPI Government, with the rest of us on hand to provide further explanations or to respond to specific questions.

July 10 - I made a detailed presentation to the community on the purposes of our visit, and the need for the Enewetak Council to consider, deliberate, and take action accordingly. (See Attachment # 1 for an outline of the presentation. Also attached is a copy --Attachment # 2-- of a key meeting on July 1 between FSE Manager and the Enewetak Council).

July 11 - The purpose of this second meeting was to respond to the Council's questions and concerns which arose from the first meeting. Most of their questions dealt with DOE and TTPI purchased equipment which would be left at Enewetak at the conclusion of our programs. Of particular concern was the DOE's LCM (i.e. M boat) which the community clearly wants to keep if we close out. I deferred discussion of this subject, per Mr. Anderson's wishes , so that we all wouldn't be bogged down with unproductive issues. Indeed, we were gratified to learn that the Council proposes to ask the High Commissioner to seek a loan of \$200,000 from commercial sources, using its Trust Funds as collateral, and to make the loan proceeds available to continue the Enewetak

Resettlement program for at least one full quarter, with an option to negotiate for an additional \$200,000 for the second quarter. (See Attachment # 3). When Congressional funding becomes available, the loan would be repaid. In short, the people of Enewetak have taken the unprecedented initiative to save their own programs by this emergency rescue action.

I reemphasized that DOE's decision to remain at Enewetak, while not finalized, would be aided if funding is assured for the coming fiscal year and full program direction is delegated to DOE. Otherwise we would have little choice but to proceed with our plans to sail to Enewetak on September 22 or so, and begin close-out efforts.

We did announce to the community the good news that the TTPI had provided a fourth quarter authorization and funding to the DOE for the Enewetak program. Mr. Jordan said that there might be sufficient funds to proceed with a food and kerosene order for the first quarter in FY 87.

July 13 - Mr. Jordan reviewed the community's "rescue plan" and described the steps he would take in Saipan to guide its implementation. He also said that the TTPI would intercede with the Department of the Interior to ensure there would be a smooth transition in responsibilities and program direction if and when the TTPI closes down. However, he opined that elements of the TTPI would likely remain in existence through March 31, 1987 and that current technical staff such as the nutritionist, Mrs. Linda Parkinson, would remain available to offer technical assistance, etc.

The Council insisted and Jordan agreed that if a program close-down is to occur, no action be taken to remove any program asset or equipment from the atoll without a final review meeting with the community. We concurred with this decision. We indicated that if a close down becomes necessary, we would all be back between September 18-30 (depending on scheduled airline service dates, etc.) to review and discuss our plans with the community and its Council.

The Council did ask us to consider, in the event USC funding and/or loan execution was imminent, but not completed by October 1, 1986, the possibility of supporting a limited, care-taking operation of FSE and a suspension in programs. I said that this was a reasonable request and that I would take up this suggestion with DOE authorities. I also requested Hiner and Miyasato to work out a plan and budget for a care-taker/ mothballing action in the event, funds permitting, DOE chooses this option)..

In summary, I thought our work and activities with the community and Council at Enewetak were enormously productive. Moreover the climate and spirit there was positive, beneficial, and remarkably free of rancor or argument. Everyone was cooperative and anxious to achieve good results. The local political authorities behaved like true statesmen, a real blessing to us in an environment charged

with crisis and difficult decision-making. We all left with good feelings about our discussions and accomplishments together.

D. OTHER ACTIVITIES AT ENEWETAK

On July 12, we visited Runit Island to inspect the CACTUS CRATER dome and to take extensive photography. There are signs and evidence that the islanders have been going there to collect bird eggs and/or to snare and eat the birds.. (During the meetings we reminded everyone that Runit was off limits).

I also had an opportunity to walk through the station to observe progress on compliance with the safety recommendations of Cecil Hickman's report. I video-taped much of what I observed. It was apparent that a good number of the corrections had been made. Nevertheless, while I did not feel technically competent to evaluate safety matters, it was readily apparent to me that additional measures must be taken to complete the implementation of the recommendations. On some, no action has been taken; on others, I was told that the parts and items, etc. "are in the pipeline". My impression is that more could have been done since the report was issued nine months ago.

E. MAJURO

1. Since REPMAR Chief Secretary Oscar De Brum was unable to accompany us on the visit as planned, we attempted to meet with other officials to brief them on our activities at Enewetak. We were unsuccessful in meeting with any other appropriate REPMAR official except for Jordan's session with the Minister of Finance, Tom Kijner. Minister Kijner was pleased with our accomplishments and very much liked the idea to transfer all TTPI purchased equipment at Enewetak to DOE so that if there is a close down in the program, his government would not have to get involved in the equipment-transfer chain. (I confirmed this later with Kijner when I sat next to him on the airplane to Honolulu.)

2. We met with and briefed Mr. Mike Senko, U.S. Status LNO, Majuro, on our activities at Enewetak. He was appreciative and advised us about the new, Good Neighbor policy on the part of the DOD, at Kwajalein. Based upon his description, I believe this will do much to improve relations at Kwajalein.

3. We held a negotiating session with John Slattebo, Manager, Airline of the Marshall Islands, and Ian Doncaster, his chief pilot on DOE aircraft needs for the month of August (to support the LLNL/BARC mission to Bikini). It was agreed that a diverted 748 flight will be laid on for Bikini via Enewetak on August 20, and that a Dornier charter from Kwajalein to Bikini and back will be provided on August 26. We tentatively scheduled a Dornier diversion from Wotho Atoll into Bikini on August 14, to carry Bill Robison from Kwajalein and we will contact AMI by August 1, 1986 to learn if the aircraft can be made available at that time.

4. We visited the Four Atoll Health Care Program as a courtesy. We reviewed our Ebeye trailer needs with their staff and reaffirmed that

their base office in Majuro had permission to talk to our radio stations on RF 8.054. While there, we were approached by a Japanese photographer, Mr. Kousei Shimada, representing N.H.K., the Japan Broadcasting Company. He discussed and submitted in writing, a request for DOE small boat support at Bikini for July 20. On that date, he and a small crew will be on Enyu Island and would like to go to several nearby islands to do some documentary filming. I said that I would pass his request formally to DOE authorities and would get back to him, through Reynold De Brum, as soon as possible with a response.

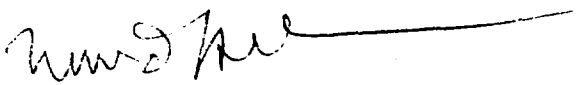
III. RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Should it transpire that future funding is assured and DOE accepts continued responsibility for the Enewetak program, it would be timely and appropriate for PASO to meet with TTPI staff to discuss the scope of work, component technical assistance and program transition matters since in all likelihood, the activity will be transferred to DOI during the course of the fiscal year, according to Jordan. He talked about holding such a meeting on Saipan with the High Commissioner at the beginning of the first quarter in FY 87.

B. If on the other hand there does not appear to be the prospect of a rescue funding action by either the TTPI (via a commercial loan) or the USC (via appropriation) by the middle of September at the latest, then we should schedule a revisit to Enewetak before the end of the month in order to proceed with program close out actions. However, if we are placed in these circumstances, I would urge consideration of a program suspension and caretaking option. It shouldn't be too costly to do for one quarter and does provide us with flexibility and softens the trauma which would be produced by an abrupt departure from the atoll.

C. I believe we can avoid considerable hassle in the long run and provide a great assist to the Enewetak people if we can accept the direct transfer of the TTPI purchased program equipment on to the DOE's property inventory. Under existing policy, the High Commissioner would be ordinarily obliged to offer it all to the REPMAR who, presumably, in turn would grant it to the people of Enewetak. However, The REPMAR Government seems willing and interested in foregoing this formality in order to stay on good terms with Enewetak. Moreover, the TTPI apparently can't give the items directly to the islanders. This suggestion would facilitate the acquisition of the items by the people in the long run.

D. It is important to schedule a management and program evaluation visit as well as a safety program follow up at FSE no later than January 1987 if we remain there. Then we will be able to determine more readily how well we are operating as this remote site.


WILLIAM D. JACKSON
Program Liaison Specialist

c.c. AMOCO w/attachments

HOLMES & NARVER, INC.
ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTORS
ENERGY SUPPORT DIVISION
PACIFIC OPERATIONS
CONTRACT DE-AC08-76NV00020

DATE: July 7, 1986.
TO: Manager, Pacific Operations
FROM: Site Manager, Enewetak Field Station
SUBJECT: Enewetak Clean-up, non-radiological

An informal meeting was held with key representatives of the Enewetak people including Mayor Hertel John, Scribe Hernest Johnson, Enjebi Iroij John Abraham, Council members H. Jackson, L. Mark, J. Jitiam, others from the community and myself on July 1, 1986 to inform them of the present status of the DOE Field Station and the DOE/H&N intention of cleaning up both Enewetak and Enjebi of scrapped materials and equipment previously involved with DOE projects.

FIELD STATION - FY 1987

Due to lack of, and/or non-availability/committal of funding as of this date to continue support for the Enewetak Resettlement programs for FY87, plans are being initiated to terminate Field Station operations by Sept. 30, 1986. Informed those present that general discussion of the disposition of all property (should the field station terminate operations) will be held at the scheduled meeting with representatives from DOE, TTPI, H&N, and the Enewetak Council and community.

Informed them that said representatives will be arriving July 10, 1986 and preliminary plans call for TTPI property to be turned over to REPMAR. All DOE property deemed essential to other DOE programs will be transferred/transhipped to other such locations. Those property not required at other programs will be surveyed and abandoned in place.

ENEWETAK/ENJEBI CLEAN-UP

Also discussed with all present the DOE's desire to clean-up both Enewetak and Enjebi of non-radiological junk which includes both scrapped and in use materials/equipment. That this clean-up would be done regardless of the operational status of the Field Station for FY87 and would relate only to those DOE property that were used in conjunction with previous DOE programs and not intended as a clean-up of previous Radiological Clean-up materials and equipment (DNA).

ENEWETAK

Clean-up at Enewetak would consist of the Field Station grounds which includes a D8 Dozer, two heavy duty trailers that were modified as a temporary pier after the 1982 storm which are in the water on the lagoon side of the repair shop. Also two fuel tanker trailers located at the community center which at one time were used to dispense kerosene to the

community, a service which discontinued at the request of the Enewetak people, and junked materials/equipment scheduled for survey at the Field Station.

It was made clear that those equipment/materials at the old pier at the southwest end of the island, two forklifts abandoned across from the old pier, and the old swimming pool were left as is from the previous DNA Radiological Clean-up and are not the official responsibility of DOE to clean-up/remove/fill those items. DOE will however, consider the wishes of the community as regards these items, and will assist in their disposition on a best efforts basis.

ENJEBI

With the approval of those present and also of those landowners (Weto) on which said scrapped materials/equipment is now situated, initial clean-up of Enjebi started on July 4, 1986 with the establishment of the Enjebi base camp. A crew of 6 locals and 1 expatriate is currently engaged in the clean-up which is expected to be completed in 4 to 5 weeks.

Approval was also granted by said landowners to bury all scrapped materials and equipment either at their present locations (all large equipment) or at the two ground water catchment pits located at the Enjebi LLNL test garden (small

materials/equipment). As of this date we are awaiting approval of DOE/LLNL for burial at the test garden. This would save DOE/H&N much time and effort.

Requested by the Dri-Enjebi landowners on which the DOE/LLNL Enjebi camp is now situated is that the surplus 4 living trailers, 2 water tanker trucks and the personnel pier (modified low-boy trailer) be left as is (after cleaning) and abandoned. FSE manager also agreed to the removal of truck frames beneath the two water tankers so that the tanks can be set on wooden blocks at their present locations. The 5k gal. fuel tanker trailer will be remove as requested, along with the other materials and equipment scheduled for disposal.

Recommended in the Preliminary Scope of Work submitted by S. Miyasato in June/86 at the HNL office was to fill-in the salt water lens well previously used as the R.O.unit intake. After some discussion, agreement was reached wherein the community would provide an unused benjo (outhouse) unit and we would set it in place over the lens-well. This would then provide a toilet source at the camp after the clean-up, since we will be removing both the present flush toilets now in use at the camp toward the end of the Enjebi clean-up.

Much appreciation is extended to all those involved for their cooperation given me to begin this clean-up, without delays. Mayor Hertel John, Enjebi Iroij John Abraham, Scribe Ernest Johnson, the Enjebi Weto owners and especially Mr. Benjamin Gideon for doing most of the leg work between Weto owners of Enjebi.

As agreed to at said meeting, following signatures are set forth onto this agreement to the clean-up procedures/conditions as set forth herein.

Senator Ishmael John

Mayor Hertel John

Dri-Enjebi Iroi John Abraham

Scribe Ernest Johnson

Dri-Enwetak Iroi Renton Peter

Councilman Harry Jackson

Councilman Ishao Luther

Councilman Tira George

Councilman Lombwe Mark

Councilman Jitiam Jitiam

Councilwoman Salina Jitiam

Councilman Balik Paul

Mr. Satao Henry, Dri-Enjebi

Mr. Sam Luke, Dri-Enjebi

Mr Obet David, Dri-Enjebi

Mr. Benjamin Gideon, Dri- Enjebi

Mr. Stan Miyasato
Site Manager, H&N

ENEWETAK/UJELANG LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

July 13, 1986

Hon. Janet McCoy
High Commissioner
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
Saipan, N.M.I.

Dear Madam High Commissioner,

Our Council hereby requests that you use the corpus of Ujelang Trust Numer 2 as collateral to support a loan to obtain the funds necessary to continue the various elements of the Enewetak Support Program through the first quarter of fiscal 1987. After consulting with Mr. Chuck Jordan of your staff at meetings here on Enewetak July 11 and 12, we understand that this will enable you to authorize the Department of Energy to expend the funds necessary to continue the Support Program.

It is our hope that Congress will appropriate the funds necessary to continue the program before October 1, 1986, so that it will not be necessary to borrow funds against the corpus of our Trust. Should it be necessary, however, you are hereby authorized to borrow the funds using the Trust corpus as security. In the event Congress fails to appropriate the funds, the corpus may be used to pay the loan. If Congress does appropriate the funds, we understand that the loan will be repaid from the appropriation.

Sincerely yours,

